





# **Bulgaria Water Sector Business Opportunities Conference**

Sofia, Bulgaria: Sept. 26-27, 2005

An event in sequence with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference on Water and Environment in Southeast Europe
Bucharest, Romania, September 28-30, 2005

## Explore water sector and environmental opportunities in Bulgaria!

Bulgaria, one of the key European Union accession countries is committed to comply with EU water and wastewater directives by raising water tariffs; stimulating investment by through new laws and policies that support infrastructure development. Under the EU ISPA funding stream, 300+ million euro for 2005 and 370+ million euro for 2006, these figures double when co-financing commitments are included. Nevertheless current investment falls short of what is required to develop urban drainage and sewerage systems and expand service coverage throughout the country. Despite regulations preventing, U.S. firms from contracting directly for EU funded projects, there are considerable business opportunities in Bulgaria for all categories of US companies in the water and wastewater sector.

The <u>Bulgaria Water Sector Business Opportunities Conference</u> in Sofia, Bulgaria on September 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> brings together U.S. firms, donor organizations, Bulgarian national ministries, local, project developers and U.S. Embassy Officials to discuss regional and national environmental challenges, proposed solutions and new projects in Bulgaria The program includes site visits to water infrastructure projects in and around Sofia, Bulgaria and cultural excursions after the close of formal activities. . It is held in conjunction with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference on <u>Water and Environment in Southeast Europe</u> to be held in Bucharest, September 28-30.

# **Highlights**

- One-on-one meetings for U.S. firms with potential local partners.
- U.S. firm presentations to Bulgarian officials and firms.
- Presentations on EU and local project opportunities
- Overview of EU Water Framework in Bulgaria
- Bulgarian water sector policies and project information
- Financing strategies (including Ex-Im Bank and USTDA).
- USAID activities in Bulgaria.
- Opportunity to explore business opportunities in region at two sequential events in one week.

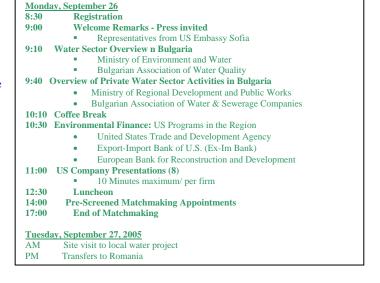
# **Participants**

- National agencies (Water, environment, energy, economy)
- Local municipal officials (Water and waste water agencies)
- Associations (of municipalities, utilities, businesses, water users)
- Local firms (Water engineering, sales agents and technology firms)
- Private investment and banking organizations and financing experts
- U.S. investors and operators
- U.S. service providers (operation & maintainence and consultants)
- U.S. equipment suppliers and manufacturers (e.g. pumps, filters, packaged treatment solutions, control panels and software)
- U.S. experts in wastewater treatment, watersheds and urban drainage

#### Cost for US firms:

- Bulgaria Water Seminar; Sept. 26-27 \$250 pp
- 2<sup>nd</sup> SE Europe Water Conference Sept. 29-30: \$250 pp;

Deadline to Register: August 19, 2005



Seminar Agenda



### **To Register Contact:**

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